

FISCAL NOTE

Bill #: SB0156

Title: Revise authority over practice of law

Primary Sponsor: O'Neil, J

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor signature _____ Date _____

Chuck Swysgood, Budget Director _____ Date _____

Fiscal Summary

	<u>FY 2004 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2005 Difference</u>
Expenditures:		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Revenue:		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Net Impact on General Fund Balance:	\$0	\$0

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Local Gov. Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Included in the Executive Budget | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Long-Term Impacts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Revenue Form Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs to be included in HB 2 |

Fiscal Analysis

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. This bill would allow the qualified electors to amend the Montana Constitution to allow anyone the right to practice law in any court in Montana regardless of formal education.
2. Under current practice to become a licensed attorney, individuals must sit for and pass the State Bar exam. Formal education requirements must be met in order to be eligible to sit for the exam.
3. If this legislation passes, the formal education requirements to sit for the exam would be dropped. However, individuals would still be required to pass the Bar exam in order to become licensed.
4. The Judicial Branch assumes that the number of individuals who would pass the Bar exam without the formal education would be insignificant.
5. There would be no significant fiscal impact to the state.